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MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Information Management Staff, DDO

25X1A   FROM: ▆▆▆▆▆▆▆▆▆▆▆▆
                Chief, Records Review Branch, ISAS/DDA

VIA: Assistant for Information, DDA

SUBJECT: Classification Review of CIG and SO Reports for the
                 Period 1946-1950 - Treatment of Reports Containing
                 Foreign Liaison Information

        1. The Records Review Branch (RRB) is engaged in the classification
review of DO predecessor organization (CIG and OSO) reports disseminated
under the SO series during the period 1946-1950. The National Archives
and Records Service (NARS) has appraised these reports as permanent
records. These reports pose a problem for NARS because they have been
accessioned in multiple copies by other U.S. Government agencies. As a
result NARS is confronted with both a review and a storage problem.
RRB, at the request of Mr. Edwin A. Thompson, Director, Records Declassi-
fication Division (NARS) agreed to review CIA record copies of SO reports
for the period 1946-50 and provide NARS a computer run of review actions
so that NARS reviewers can take similar action on the numerous copies in
NARS custody. Until 1 December 1978 when the new E.O. 12065 becomes
fully effective, only those permanent records 30 years of age or older
must be reviewed systematically. On 1 December 1978 the permanent
record age limit for systematic review becomes 20 years or older except
for foreign government information which "shall be reviewed for declassi-
fication thirty years from its date of origin." Technically then SO
reports dated 1949 and 1950 and containing foreign government information
need not be reviewed until 1979 and 1980 respectively. However, all CIG
and SO reports for the period 1946-1950 are being reviewed as a series,
both as a practical matter and because the years 1946-50 constitute a
record period at NARS for accession of documents by other U.S. Government
agencies. RRB has completed its classification review of the regular SO
reports for the period 1946-50 and is now turning its attention to SODB
reports for that period. Based on NARS's interest, it is next planned
25X1A   to review ▆▆▆▆▆▆▆▆▆▆OOB reports for 1946-50.

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2. Those CIG and SO reports (1946-1950) containing information from foreign government (CIA liaison) sources posed difficult review problems. ███████████████ In the paper attached as Tab A argues strongly the principle of totally protecting foreign liaison information as necessary to protect CIA's foreign government relationships. He foresees an adverse effect on current CIA liaison relations if foreign intelligence services become aware that CIA has declassified reports containing information supplied by them even though the information is old and no longer sensitive. In his view declassification is a breach of the principle of confidentiality with the liaison service.

3. Intelligence officers can appreciate ██████████ views but the **25X1A** intent of E.O. 11652 and 12065 is that foreign government information be declassified in accordance with Section 3-3 of E.O. 12065 which directs declassification as early as national security considerations permit, and Section 3-404 which authorizes declassification according to guidelines prepared by the Agency and the Archivist of the U.S., and, where appropriate, with the foreign government concerned. In both the old and new Executive Order the head of an agency must personally certify that it is in the interest of national security to retain classification of a document beyond the age limit (30 years for foreign government information). The basic question is whether the DCI should certify documents containing non-sensitive and outdated information, such as order of battle dispositions 30 years ago, solely on the basis that the information was supplied by foreign government liaison services and without current evidence or proof that disclosure of the information would adversely effect U.S. security. Such undocumented certification by the DCI, if discovered and publicized, might be used as an argument to weaken the DCI's statutory authority to protect intelligence sources and methods on matters considered really important.

4. RRB sought to steer a middle course, evaluating each document in terms of the DCI's statutory authority to protect intelligence sources and methods and the intent of E.O. 11652 and E.O. 12065 to declassify as much information as possible. Reports specifically sourced to foreign governments and those of recognizable ████████████ however sourced, **25X1A** were exempted. Questions arose on reports which are not readily recognizable as of foreign liaison origin, but which have asterisks, letters, or other symbols placed on the reports as an internal CIA recognition code for foreign laision information. Such reports were evaluated on the basis of content bearing in mind that certain types of information such as travel reports on Bloc officials, point to a liaison relationship with CIA and thereby grounds for exempting the report.

5. Questions also arose on how to treat reports dealing with special situations.

(a) Should reports containing outdated order of battle information
25X1A attributed to ██████ military commanders or generally sourced to ██████ **25X1A**

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8. Under the new Executive Order, agency heads, in consultation with the Archivist of the U.S., will prepare special guidelines for the classification review of foreign government information. It would be appreciated if DO/IMS would prepare by 9 August 1978, and in coordination with ██████████████████ the basic draft of such guidelines for consideration by the task force organized by ISAS/DDA to implement the classification/declassification/mandatory review requirements of E.O. 12065.

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Attachments: A and B

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DDA/ISAS/RRB ████████████ (24 July 78)

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